

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 113506
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY D:DLAMB:MAS
APPROVED BY D:WCHRISTOPHER
S/S:AWOTTO

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 113506

NODIS
FOR THE SECRETARY ONLY FROM CHRISTOPHER

E.O. 11652:

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)

SUBJECT:EVENING READING

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF TUESDAY'S EVENING READING:

1. U.S.-VIETNAM TALKS. THE FIRST WEEK IN JUNE IS THE MOST
LIKELY TIME FOR THE NEXT ROUND OF THE TALKS WITH THE VIET-
NAMESE. ON THE HILL, SENTIMENT AGAINST ANY SORT OF GESTURE
TOWARDS THE VIETNAMESE HAS RISEN SHARPLY, AND GIVEN RISE
TO SOME VERY UNHELPFUL LEGISLATION. THE WORST OF THESE
PROPOSALS, BY REPRESENTATIVE ASHBROOK, PASSED BY A VOTE OF
266 TO 131 LAST WEEK, AND WOULD ACTUALLY PROHIBIT ANY FUNDS
IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL FROM BEING USED
FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE WITH
VIETNAM. THE LATEST ATTEMPTS TO LIMIT OUR FLEXIBILITY HAVE
COME ON THE FUNDING OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS,
WITH SOME CONGRESSMEN SEEKING TO PREVENT ANY MONEY WE CON-

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TRIBUTE TO IFI'S FROM BEING USED FOR VIETNAM. WE ARE OP-
POSING BOTH OF THESE EFFORTS, BUT CAUTIOUSLY BECAUSE OF
THE MOOD ON THE HILL.

-- MEANWHILE, THE VIETNAMESE HAVE BEGUN TO CHARGE US WITH
BAD FAITH IN OUR PUBLIC STATEMENTS, MIXING OUR STATEMENTS
UP WITH THOSE OF MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND FORMER ADMINISTRA-

TION OFFICIALS (ESPECIALLY HENRY KISSINGER). WE HAVE SENT

WORD BACK TO HANOI THAT WE ARE IN FACT KEEPING OUR WORD, BUT WE HAVE STRESSED THAT THE MOOD OF THE CONGRESS IS A REAL FACTOR WHICH HANOI MUST ACCEPT, EVEN IF THEY DO NOT LIKE IT. FINALLY, WE HAVE CAUTIONED THE VIETNAMESE ABOUT THE NATURE OF SOME OF THEIR INFLAMMATORY RECENT PUBLIC STATEMENTS.

-- AS INDICATED EARLIER, WE SHOULD NOT EXPECT MUCH MOVEMENT IN THE NEXT ROUND, BUT NONE OF US FEEL THAT WE SHOULD CHANGE OUR POSITION NOW. IT IS SOLID, REALISTIC, AND FULLY DEFENSIBLE IN BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE.

2. IRAQ. IN HIS MEETING YESTERDAY WITH FOREIGN MINISTER HAMMADI, PHIL HABIB CONVEYED OUR INTEREST IN NORMALIZING US-IRAQI RELATIONS AND EXPLAINED OUR VIEWS ON A MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT. HAMMADI SAID IRAQ WAS NOT YET READY TO RESUME DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. BEFORE DOING SO, IRAQ WOULD HAVE TO BE ASSURED THAT WE WOULD BE EVEN-HANDED IN OUR POLICIES TOWARD THE ARABS. HABIB GAVE ASSURANCES, BUT THE IRAQIS ARE NOT READY. BECAUSE OF OUR LIMITED COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES (CABLES ARE HAND-ENCRYPTED) IN THE "INTEREST SECTION" IN THE BELGIAN EMBASSY IN BAGHDAD, THE INITIAL REPORT OF THE MEETING WAS BRIEF.

3. KING HUSSEIN. AFTER BEING BRIEFED ON YOUR CONVERSATIONS WITH ASSAD IN GENEVA, HUSSEIN SPOKE WITH ASSAD BY TELEPHONE YESTERDAY AND FOUND THE SYRIAN PRIME MINISTER
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EXTREMELY PLEASED BY THE TALKS. HUSSEIN TOLD OUR AMBASSADOR THAT HE HOPED TO WORK AMONG THE ARABS TO BUILD UP MORE SUPPORT FOR SELF-DETERMINATION FOR THE PALESTINIANS AND FOR "NORMALIZATION" MEASURES. HUSSEIN INDICATED SADAT FEELS THAT ASSAD MAY HAVE BEEN TOO HARD ON NORMALIZATION IN HIS TALK WITH YOU.

4. MARITIME NEGOTIATIONS WITH CANADA. WE ARE PLANNING TO EXPLORE WITH INTERESTED U.S. PARTIES A NEW APPROACH TO OUR MARITIME BOUNDARIES AND FISHERIES PROBLEMS WITH CANADA. THE CANADIANS HAVE BEEN PRESSING US HARD ON THIS AND WE THINK IT IMPORTANT TO MAKE PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS BEFORE OUR INTERIM FISHERIES AGREEMENT WITH CANADA EXPIRES AT THE END OF THIS YEAR.

-. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE A CONTINUING PROBLEM WITH THE CANADIANS OVER PACIFIC COAST SALMON FISHERIES, THE MOST DIFFICULT SET OF ISSUES CONCERNS BOUNDARIES AND FISHERIES ARRANGEMENTS IN THE GULF OF MAINE. THE APPROACH WE WILL

BE EXPLORING WITH INDUSTRY AND CONGRESS INVOLVES CONSOLIDATING HERETOFORE SEPARATE NEGOTIATIONS ON FISHERIES AND BOUNDARIES, EXPLORING THE POSSIBILITY OF THIRD-PARTY

ADJUDICATION OF THE BOUNDARY LINE AND, ON FISHERIES, ATTEMPTING TO DEVISE ARRANGEMENTS TO PERMIT OUR REGIONAL FISHERIES COUNCILS TO DECIDE ACCESS TO FISHERIES ON AN ANNUAL BASIS WITH COUNTERPART CANADIAN ORGANIZATIONS. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, BRIEFING MATERIALS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE113506
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DLAMB:MAS
Enclosure: DG PER S/SO WATCH OFFICER 5/20/77.
Executive Order: R9
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P840083-0511
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770543/aaaabkzx.tel
Line Count: 124
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1dc5e390-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, ONLY
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2468009
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EVENING READING
TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, VN, IZ, CA, XF, (VANCE, CYRUS R)
To: GENEVA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1dc5e390-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009